



John Franklin Brake Jr.

September 18, 1928 - March 12, 2025

John Franklin Brake, Jr., formerly of Bowling Green, MO, passed away on Wednesday, March 12, 2025.

He was preceded in death by his father, John F. Brake, Sr., his mother, Wanda Greene Brake, and two sisters, Mary Jane Brake and Wanda Elizabeth Brake Atwood.

John was born and raised in DuQuoin, IL. He was known as Sonny Brake and well known for his running ability, competing in the Illinois State Track Meet in the half mile in the 1940's. John was a member of the United States Air Force and served for four years. During that time, he married Antoinette (Toni) Neira, and they celebrated 73 years of marriage last October 4th.

John and Toni spent most of their adult life in Bowling Green, MO. John managed the P. N. Hirsch department store and upon its closing, he worked for the MO Highway Patrol Weigh Station until his retirement.

John was very active in the community into his senior years. He was a member of the Second Baptist Church and sang in the choir. While his children were growing up, he was always present at their school functions, from sports to concerts and plays. John coached summer Khoury League baseball teams and oversaw the Bowling Green Khoury League baseball

program for a few years. In addition, he spent many years broadcasting local sports games on the Bowling Green radio station, KMCR. John enjoyed boating-teaching numerous young people to ski. He played golf, followed a variety of sports teams, and traveled with his family on many vacations.

John is survived by his wife, Toni, his son, Alan (Janice), and daughter, Suzanne (Joseph). Four grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren, Angela (Jay) Scott, Brooklyn and Jayson, Michael (Rita) Brake, Jeremiah and Charlie, Timothy (Priscilla) Adams, Jacob and Chloe, and Michael (Erin) Adams and Oliver, continue John's legacy of active family lives.

John will be laid to rest on Monday, March 17th, at Bibb-Veach Funeral Home. Visitation will be from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. A graveside service will follow at Greenlawn Cemetery in Bowling Green.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorial donations be given to Bowling Green Public Library (John was an avid reader) or Gideons International.

Cemetery Details

Green Lawn Cemetery

Bowling Green, MO 63334

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 17. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Bibb-Veach Funeral Home's & Crematory LLC - Bowling Green
606 West Main Street
Bowling Green, MO 63334
(573) 324-2211
office@bibbveach.com
<https://www.bibbveach.com/>

Funeral Service

MAR 17. 11:00 AM (CT)

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606 West Main Street
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Burial

MAR 17 (CT)

Green Lawn Cemetery
Bowling Green, MO 63334

Tribute Wall

HS

“ My deepest condolences to Mr. Brake's family during this difficult time. I have many fond memories of Mr. Brake while at Second Baptist Church. He was always a kind man. My prayers are with his family.

Heather Spegal-Ritchey - March 23, 2025 at 12:04 AM

LL

“ Praying for comfort for your family.

Linda Finley Loman - March 18, 2025 at 10:22 PM

TT

“ A kind, compassionate and Christian man. I benefitted from his humor, wisdom, judgment, discipline and his sense of right and wrong. I am so lucky to have had him (and Toni) in my life. I know you are in Heaven today. God bless you!

Tom Tinsley - March 16, 2025 at 09:22 PM

ML

John was such a great example for me at church, through his involvement in baseball, observations/broadcasting games etc. His family/children I knew/know so well reflect him wonderfully. Loved his laugh! I was trying to figure out what to say on here.....but thank you Tom, you are so spot on with expressing all of our appreciation for knowing him.

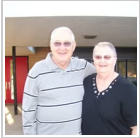
Michael Lefever - March 19, 2025 at 07:16 PM

CB

“ So very sorry for your loss. Sending up Prayers for the family 🙏

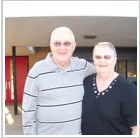


Candy Burnett - March 16, 2025 at 08:06 PM



“ Toni & family: So sorry for your loss.

Jane Ann McGeorge - March 16, 2025 at 06:02 PM



“ Toni: So sorry for your loss.

Jane Ann McGeorge - March 16, 2025 at 06:01 PM

EG

“ So sorry for your loss. He was such a friendly man, always stopped for a small conversation when I would see him. I remember him from the P.N. Hirshes days.

Ernestine Grimmert - March 15, 2025 at 12:58 PM

PB

“ Mr. Brake was such a fine man. He was quite the sports celebrity around BG. He had so much knowledge - we enjoyed listening to him on the radio.
I recall the days when everyone shopped at PN Hirsch. He was always available to answer questions. I can imagine he was good to his employees. Rest in Peace, John Brake.

Paulette Bruch - March 15, 2025 at 12:42 PM

MJ

“ Toni and family, so many of us have fond memories of John beginning with the store and continuing through the sporting events of our children. You will be in our thoughts and prayers.

Margie Jamieson - March 15, 2025 at 12:12 PM

MT

“ May he rest in peace and May God give peace to his family.

Mary/Larry Twellman - March 15, 2025 at 09:20 AM

SC

“ I fondly remember John from his days as a broadcaster of basketball games. He became a friend to my father and me when I played at Clopton. He was a fine man.

Stephen Cooper - March 15, 2025 at 08:48 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of John Franklin Brake Jr..

March 14, 2025 at 04:40 PM



“ Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of John Franklin Brake Jr..



March 14, 2025 at 04:40 PM

SM

“ *Sammy Meyers lit a candle in memory of John Franklin Brake Jr.*



Sammy meyers - March 14, 2025 at 11:25 AM